Name: Susan Anderson

Title: Training and Development Specialist

Location: Workforce Planning Bureau, HR Division, Helena

Time with MDT: 5 years

Tell us about yourself...

I was born and raised just north of Chicago (GO BEARS!) and moved to Montana in 1985. I enjoy my great family, kayaking and camping with my wonderful husband Casey, daughter Jordyn and super-dog Ellie, wild bird watching and love Montana's endless gifts of nature and culture at their very best.

A typical day includes...

It is rare to have a day that does not involve a lot of planning and organizing of my time. I am responsible for the Management Development Program at MDT, which is geared towards staff who are either brand new managers or who are considering going into management. When I am not teaching, I am planning an upcoming class or working on next year's program. I spend a lot of time working with both past and present students helping them get what they need to grow and develop in their careers.

Qualities needed to do this job include...

You need to have patience; genuine enjoyment of (and respect for) people; flexibility; creativity; organizational skills; communication skills; working knowledge of adult education principles and a great sense of humor!

My favorite things about working at MDT and why I stay here include...

First and foremost it is the people that work here. All around this big state we have bright people who are passionate about the work they do and how they do it. Since I have started working here, I have had the opportunity to meet many of the tremendous employees we have working for the department. I am particularly fortunate to have a job that allows me to try and live out my personal mission: to help people value their own uniqueness, and to recognize and honor everyone's individual differences.